Substitute Scans

presents

Vermillion

by Satoh Atsuki

chapter 7

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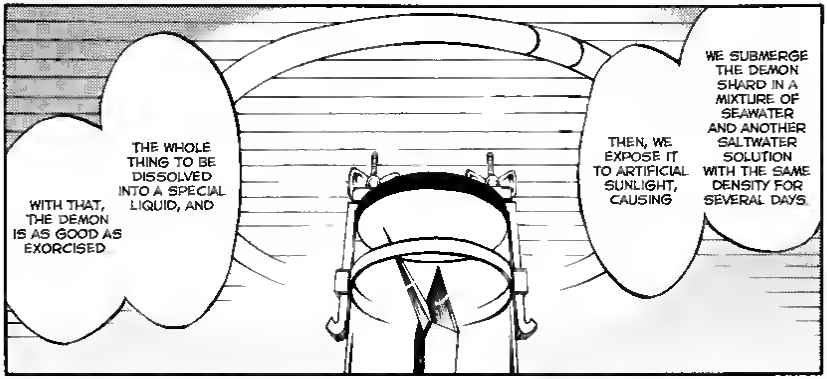
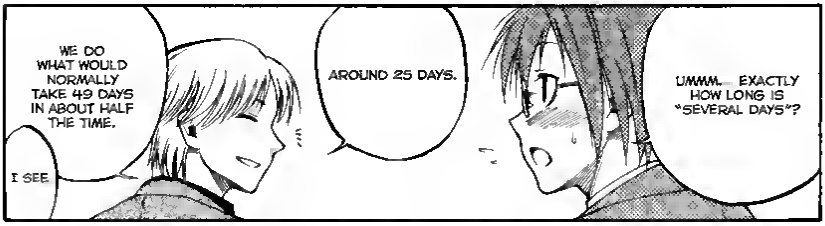
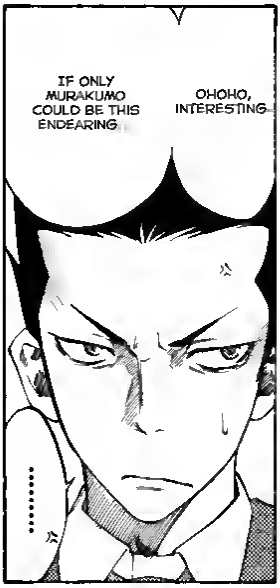
#07

THIS IS OUR BLEACHING SYSTEM.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, MURAKUMO?
SO YOU CONSTRUCTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN THE BOTTOM OF THIS BUILDING, HUH...
IT'S GREAT, ISN'T IT?
THIS IS THE FRUIT OF MY RESEARCH.
YOU SURE DO SOME CRAZY STUFF...
I don't say anything yet
I'm actually a little embarrassed


WE SUBMERGE THE DEMON SHARD IN A MIXTURE OF SEAWATER AND ANOTHER SALTWATER SOLUTION WITH THE SAME DENSITY FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
THEN, WE EXPOSE IT TO ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT, CAUSING
THE WHOLE THING TO BE DISSOLVED INTO A SPECIAL LIQUID, AND
WITH THAT, THE DEMON IS AS GOOD AS EXORCISED.


UMMM... EXACTLY HOW LONG IS "SEVERAL DAYS"?
AROUND 25 DAYS.
WE DO WHAT WOULD NORMALLY TAKE 49 DAYS IN ABOUT HALF THE TIME.
I SEE.


OHOHO, INTERESTING.
IF ONLY MURAKUMO COULD BE THIS ENDEARING.
.....

IMADA-SAN, WASN'T IT?
SO YOU UNDERSTOOD ALL THAT?
Very good.
UM, AH
Y-YES!
You can call me Momen!!
I WONDER See doesn't have much in that head of hers.
CYBER INTELLIGENCE REALLY— GETS ME EX-CITED!
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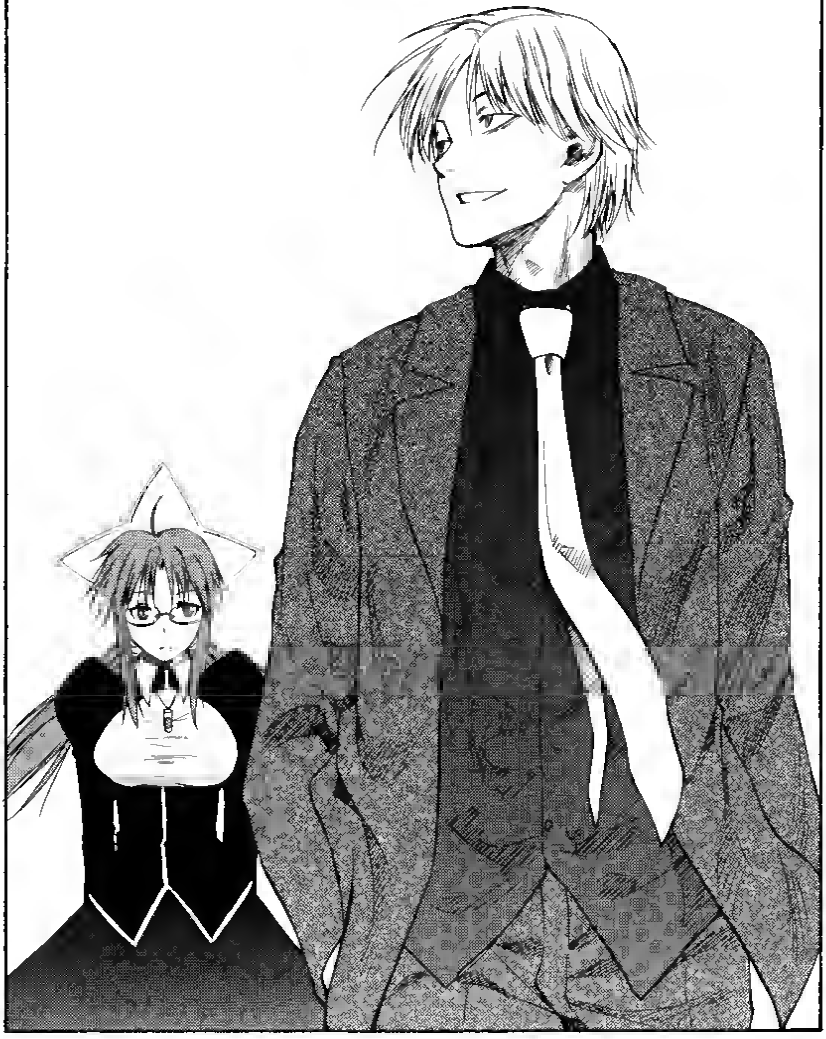
YOU POLICE HAVE HIRED YOUR OWN DEMON SLAYERS, HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU SHOULD BRING YOUR DEMON SHARDS HERE.
ALL YOU HAVE TODO IS ASK AND WEWILL GLADLY LEND YOU THE FACILITIES
...YOU'RE VERY GENEROUS, AREN'T YOU?
OK, WE'LL ACCEPT YOUR OFFER.
Death wish
AH,
WE WERE CLASS-MATES IN COLLEGE
The two of us
We're not friendly.
UMM.. BY THE WAY,
SEEMS LIKE YOU TWO ARE SO FRIENDLY WITH EACH OTHER, BUT ..
scuse me
FROM ACADEMICS TO SPORTS,
WE COMPETED AGAINST EACH OTHER IN EVERYTHING
Isn't that right, Hikaru-chan?
I TOLD YOU NOT TO CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME!
Well,
I always won, you know.
Really!?
LET'S GET BACK TO THE POINT, YOU TWO.

THEY DO THEIR JOB TO PERFECTION.
COMPLETELY AND ABSOLUTELY.
ARE YOUR DEMON SLAYERS WORKING OUT FOR YOU THEN?
SORRY, SORRY.
SO,
THANKS TO THEM, ALL THINGS "DEMON" HAVE BEEN CLEARED UP RATHER QUICKLY.
WELL... IT'S BEEN NOTHING BUT SMALL FRY, BUT...
like the black one
IT'S BEEN MORE THAN A WEEK SINCE THEY'VE COME HERE.
.....
BUT YOU KNOW, THIS SORT OF WORK IS NECESSARY
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT THEN AGAIN, THEY WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM TO BEGIN WITH THE DEMONS

WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU UP TO?
...IT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME FOR A WHILE NOW, BUT,
FUDOU,
ALMOST ALL OF THE PROFITS ARE POURED INTO THIS "DEMON EXPULSION" PROJECT OF YOURS, RIGHT?
YOUR COMPANY HAS ITS PAWS ON EVERYTHING, FROM STOCKS TO IMPORTS, TO CONSULTING, BUT...
YOUR COMPANY... THE "FUDOU GROUP", RIGHT?

TO FIGHT AGAINST THE DEMONS?
WHY WOULD YOU GO TO SUCH LENGTHS...
...WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
I WONDER...

#07：巨大な鬼門 the huge evil-gate



SUDDENLY CALLING ME OUT HERE LIKE THIS...
WHAT DO YOU WANT, OLD MAN?
still sleepy

SIT DOWN.
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANTED TO ASK YOU.
SORRY 'BOUT THAT.
.....
KISAKI SENJU... YOU'RE THE SON OF *KISAKI SEIJI*, AREN'T YOU?
!!
I THOUGHT SO...
HE WAS A FRIEND OF MINE LONG AGO.
HE SAVED ME COUNTLESS TIMES.

HE MADE AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND AND EVEN SAVE DEMONS LIKE MYSELF.
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS A DEMON SLAYER,
HE WAS A STRANGE MAN...
.....
HE REALLY DID KNOW HIM.
MY FATHER
I... LOST A GOOD FRIEND.
I REALLY LIKED HIM.
ABOUT A YEAR AGO I HEARD THAT HE DIED
I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS BUT...

EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE KID...
LOOKED UP TO MY FATHER
I ALSO...

I KILLED HIM.
I CUT MY FATHER DOWN.
WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS.

A
HERE IT IS.
OOPS
I SENSE FIGHTING.
LOOKS LIKE THE OTHER TWO BEAT US HERE.
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU SEEM UNENTHUSIASTIC?
SAME AS I'VE ALWAYS BEEN
LET'S GO.
IS THAT ALL?
THEN I DON'T MIND, BUT—.

IF THAT'S WHAT'S GETTING YOU DOWN, WELL THAT WOULD BE A PROBLEM, WOULDN'T IT.
COULD IT BE THAT YOU REMEMBERED SOMETHING UNPLEASANT?
SENJU?
KISAKI SENJU, YOU'RE
KISAKI SEIJI'S SON, AREN'T YOU?
I...
REALLY LIKED HIM.
MIROKU.
NOTHING LIKE THAT!

K
SUZUNA!!
!!

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UGH...
WHAT'S THAT?
THAT'S THIS DEMON'S POWER.
IT SEEMS IT CAN CHANGE ITS BODY FORM AT WILL,
JUST LIKE A SQUID.

WHY YOU...
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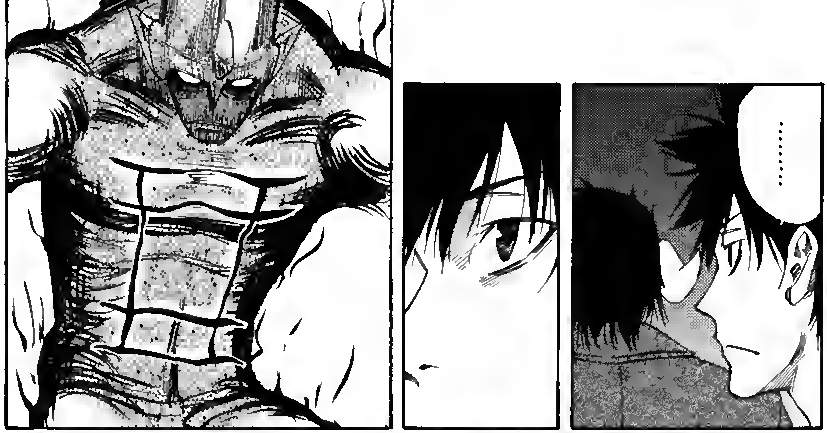
にゃ
ズル
...UH.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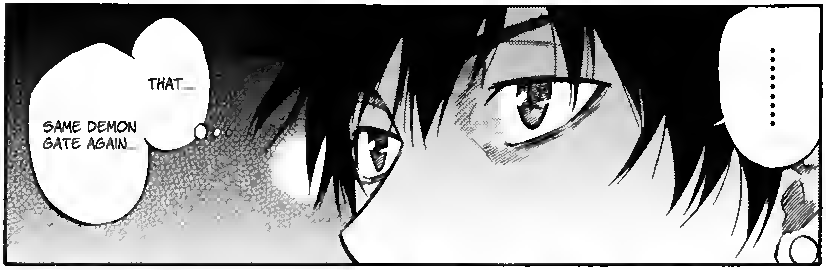
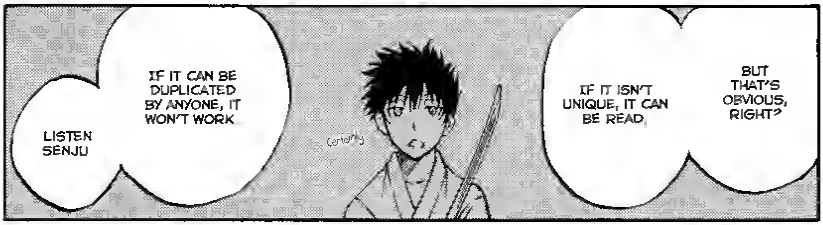

THAT...
SAME DEMON GATE AGAIN...
.....

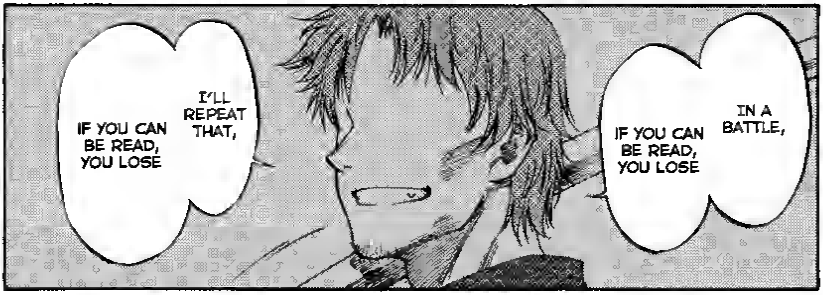
I'D GUESS HE'S READING HER MOVEMENTS, BUT...
HE CAN BEND HIS BODY FAST ENOUGH TO DODGE SUZUNA'S SUPER SPEED.
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO CATCH HIM.

WHAT'S MORE...
!!
EVEN HIS ATTACKS HAVE NO FORM.
IT'S DIFFICULT TO EVEN REACT.
IT SEEMS HE'S NOT A GOOD MATCH UP FOR SUZUNA.

IT MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO TAKE HIM DOWN WITHOUT DESTROYING IT.
A MISAIMED ATTACK COULD EVEN BE DANGEROUS.
SINCE HE'S MOVING SO FAST
WE ALSO HAVE TO BE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE DEMON SHARD.
WHAT A CREEPY THING...!
SON OF A...
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...?
.....
!
SENJU...?

SENJU,
A TECHNIQUE IS...
KNOWN AS A TECHNIQUE BECAUSE IT IS UNIQUE,


BUT THAT'S OBVIOUS, RIGHT?
IF IT ISN'T UNIQUE, IT CAN BE READ
IF IT CAN BE DUPLICATED BY ANYONE, IT WON'T WORK
LISTEN SENJU


IN A BATTLE,
IF YOU CAN BE READ, YOU LOSE
I'LL REPEAT THAT,
IF YOU CAN BE READ, YOU LOSE

!!

ALLOW ME TO...
SHOW YOU HOW TO FIGHT
STAY BACK.

YOU'RE SLOWER THAN ME...
ARE YOU CRAZY...?

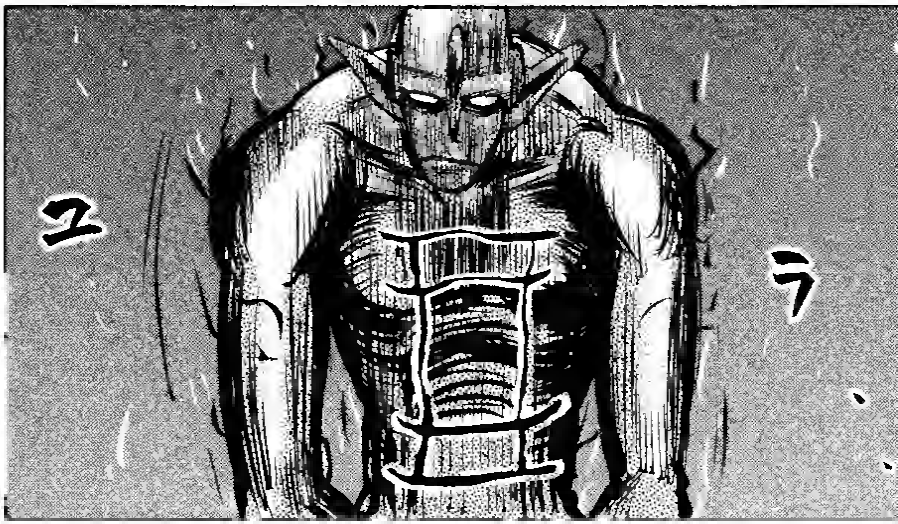
WHA.
.....

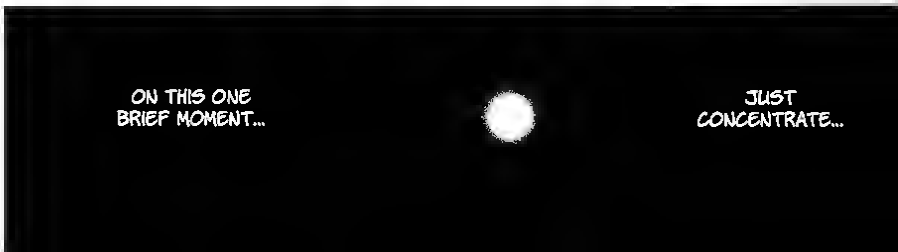
"THE HUMAN BRAIN CANNOT REACT TO WHAT IT CANNOT DUPLICATE".
"THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER COPY YOUR OPPONENT'S MOVES".

IT APPLIES IN THIS SITUATION.
BUT
STOLE IT WORD FOR WORD,
...!?

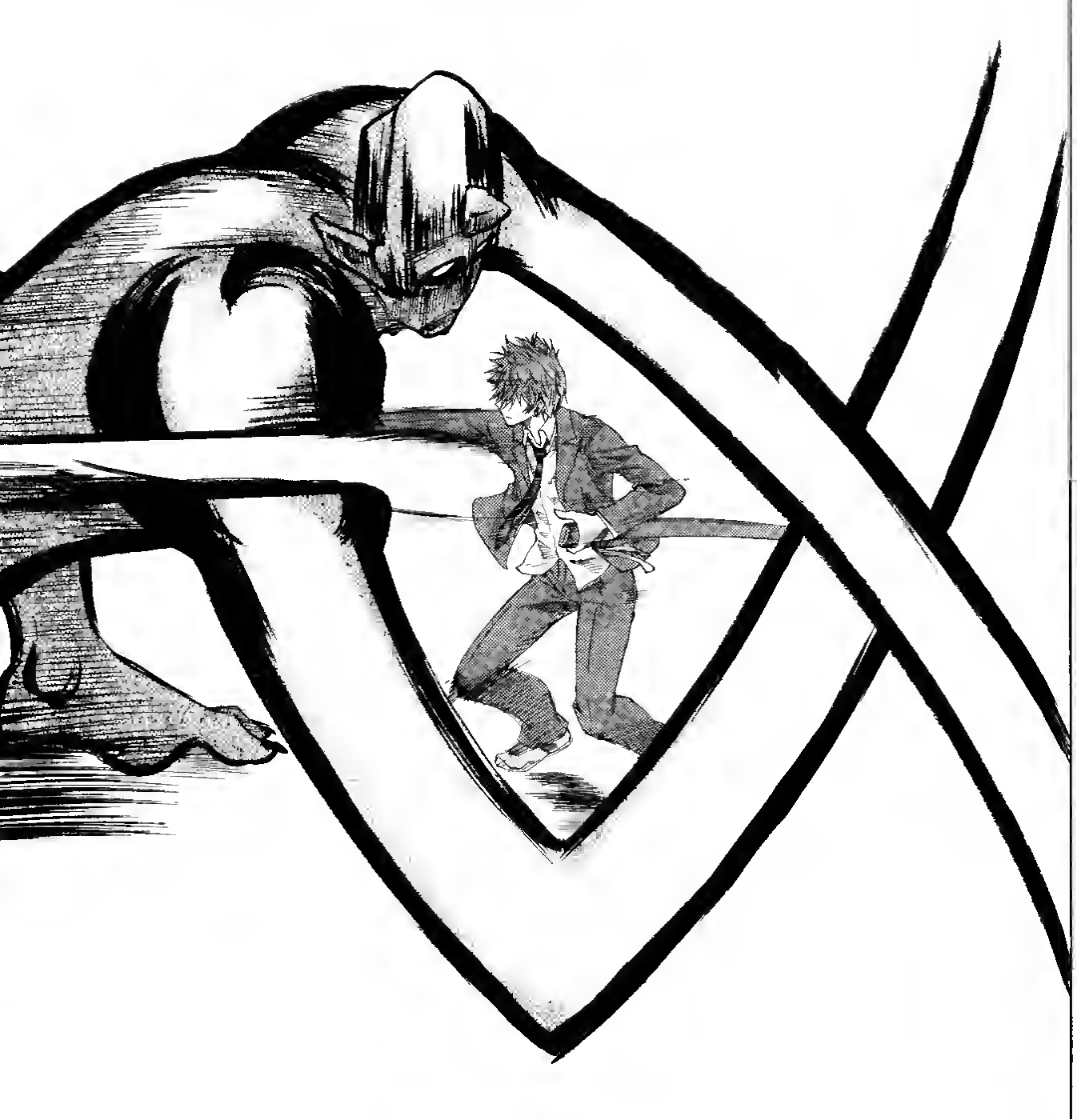
KISAKI SENJU...!?
.....!!

DON'T TRY TO PREDICT.





WE CALL A "DEMON"...
I'D GUESS HE'S "READING HER MOVEMENTS" BUT...
THIS THING...



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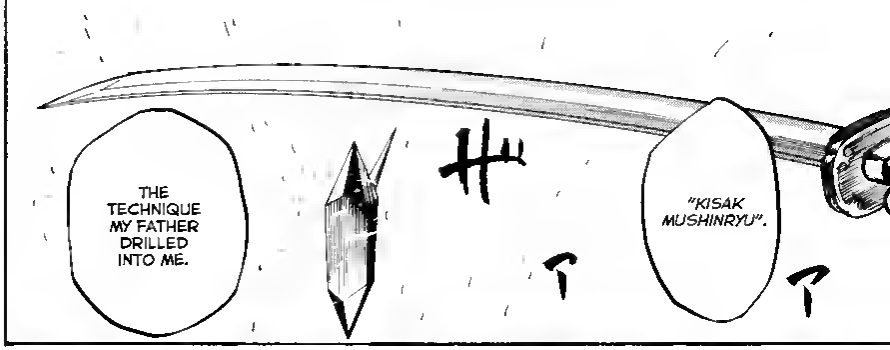
"KISAK MUSHINRYU".
THE TECHNIQUE MY FATHER DRILLED INTO ME.

THE SWORD TECHNIQUE HAS NO LOGIC,
MOVES AT THE SAME TIME AS THE BODY.
THEY MOVE SEPARATELY, BUT
EACH WITH THEIR OWN PURPOSE

EVEN DEMONS,

HAVING ONCE BEEN HUMANS,
CANNOT COMPLETELY READ MOVEMENTS THEY CAN'T DUPLICATE.